



Climate Change Steering Committee's ***Draft* Climate Change Report**

Presented to:
City of College Park
City of Greenbelt
City of Bowie
September 17, 2008

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Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments





COG Board Action April 11, 2007



- **R31-07 creates COG Climate Change Steering Committee to:**
 - ❖ Prepare regional inventory of greenhouse gases
 - ❖ Identify best practices and policies
 - ❖ Examine climate change impacts
 - ❖ Recommend Regional greenhouse gas reduction goal(s)
 - ❖ Recommend governance structure for climate change initiative
 - ❖ Propose advocacy positions
 - ❖ Prepare report to COG Board



Climate Change Steering Committee

Officers:

Chair: Hon. Nancy Floreen, Montgomery County Council

Vice-Chair: Hon. Gerry Connolly, Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

Vice-Chair: Hon. Mary Cheh, Council of the District of Columbia

District of Columbia - Members

Emeka Moneme, District Dept. of Transportation

George Hawkins, District Dept. of the Environment

Harriet Tregoning, District Office of Planning

Maryland - Members

Tad Aburn, Director, Air and Radiation Management,
Maryland Dept. of the Environment

Hon. Roger Berliner, Montgomery County Council

Hon. Judith Davis, Mayor, Greenbelt

Hon. Camille Exum, Prince George's County Council

Virginia - Members

Hon. Paul Ferguson, Arlington County Clerk of the Circuit Court

Mercury Payton, Manassas Park City Manager

Hon. Andrea McGimsey, Loudoun County Board of Supervisors

Hon. Redella Pepper, Alexandria City Council

Hon. David Snyder, Falls Church City Council

Other Regional/State Organizations - Members

John Catoe, General Manager, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

Robert Grow, Director, Government Relations, Greater Washington Board of Trade

Nikki Rovner, Deputy Secretary of Natural Resources, Commonwealth of Virginia

Alternates to Members:

Zach Dobelbower (alternate to Ms. Tregoning)

Mark Rawlings (alternate to Mr. Moneme)

Rick Rybeck (alternate to Mr. Moneme)

Jack Werner (alternate to Mr. Hawkins)

Elizabeth Entwisle (alternate to Mr. Aburn)

Hon. John Foust (alternate to Mr. Connolly)

Nat Bottigheimer (alternate to Mr. Catoe)

COG Staff:

Department of Environmental Programs:

Stuart Freudberg, Director

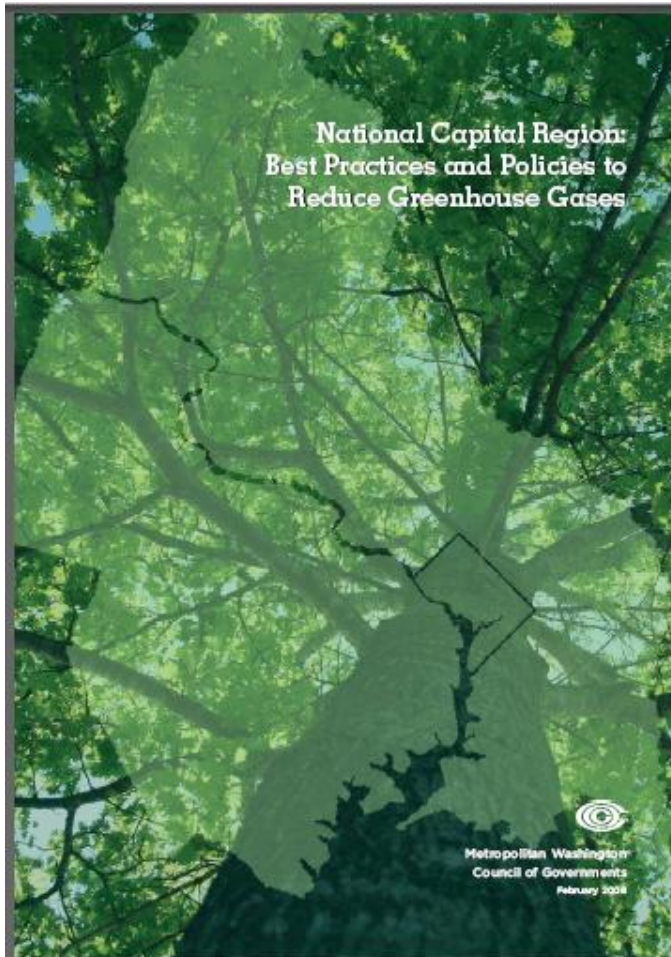
Joan Rohlf, Jeffrey King

George Nichols, Leah Boggs

Ted Graham, Tanya Spano

Naomi Friedman, Assistant Executive Director

Best Practices Guide



HIGHLIGHTS:

- Over 2/3 of local governments in the region purchase renewable energy
- Over 1/2 of the jurisdictions have adopted energy efficiency measures
- Nearly 90% of the communities in the region have embarked on transit oriented development and over 80% have "walkable community" initiatives
- About 70% of communities have green space protection and green infrastructure programs
- All communities in the region have recycling programs.



Energy and Climate Change Advocacy Positions

Federal Energy Legislation

- Promoted strengthening CAFÉ standards
- Supported “green collar” job programs
- Supported Energy efficiency block grants to local governments

Federal Climate Legislation

- Promoted the role of local governments/regional entities

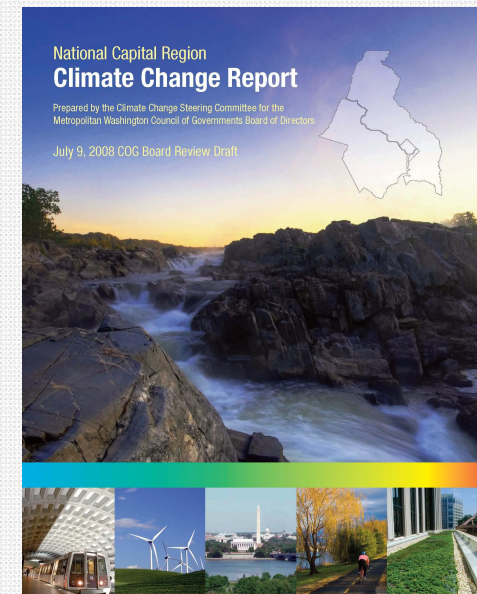
Regional Climate Program

- Endorsed Cool Capital Challenge
- Sent letter of concern re proposed coal-fired power plant in Wise County, Virginia



Climate Change Report – July 9, 2008

- I. **Facing Facts, Taking Stock and Taking Aim**
*Climate Change, Potential Impacts on Region;
Current & Projected Regional Greenhouse Gas
Emission Inventory;
Regional Targets*
- II. **Taking Action**
*Energy Consumption;
Transportation and Land Use;
Economic Development; Preparing for Impacts,
Financing; Outreach and Education.*
- III. **Moving Forward**
COG Climate Change Program
- IV. **Reference Information**

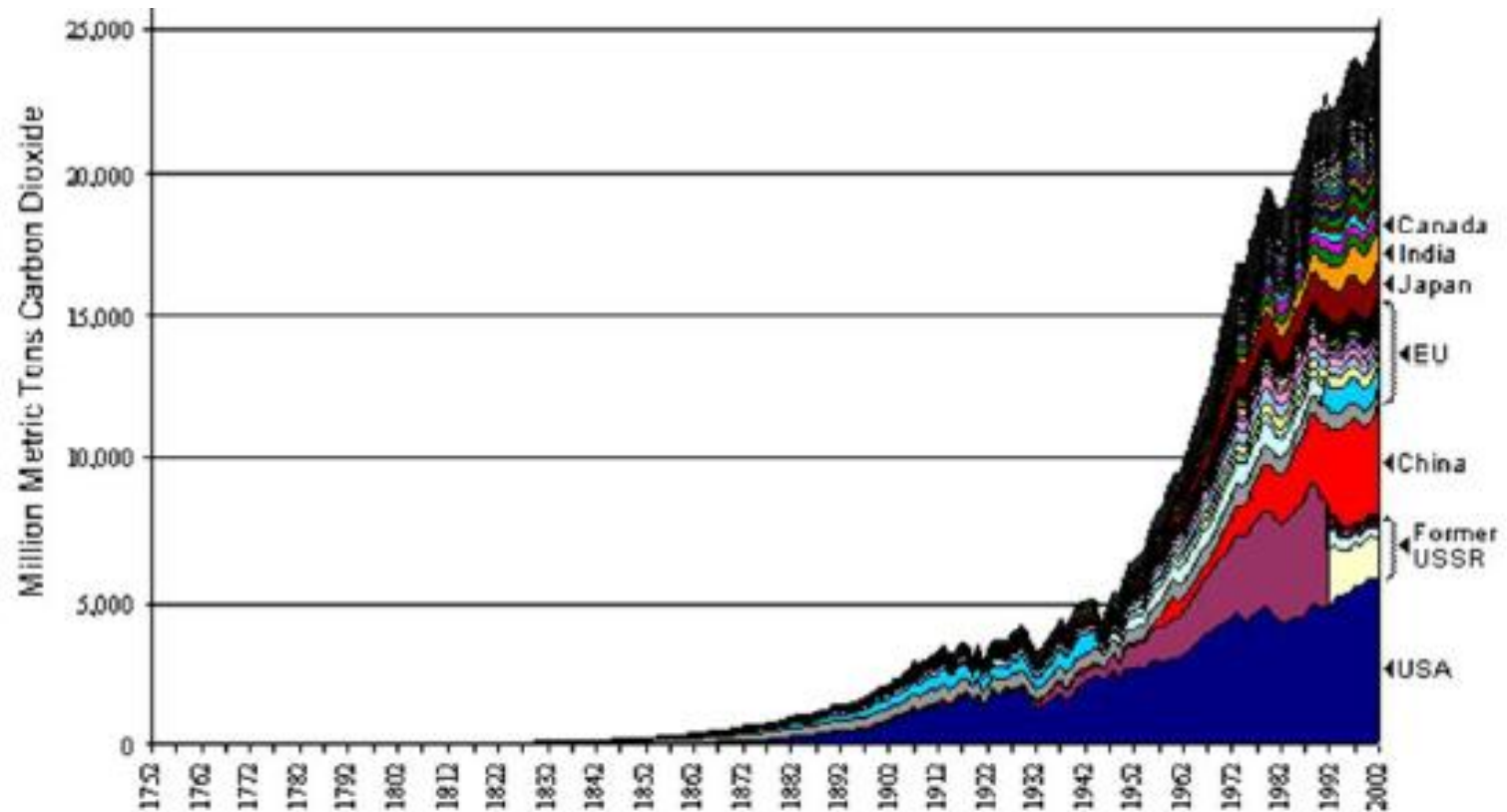




Facing Facts, Taking Stock and Taking Aim

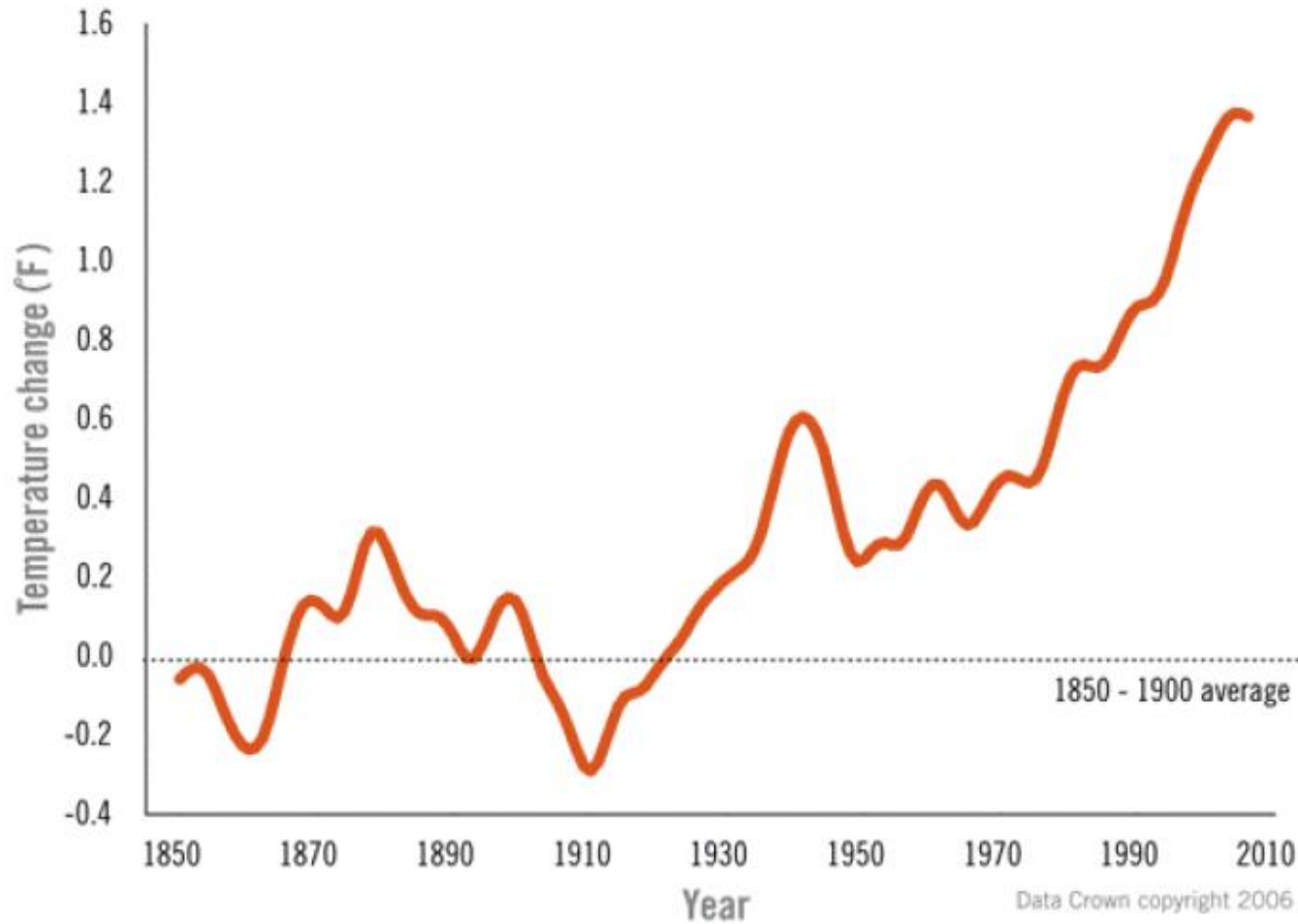


Global CO₂ Emissions Since 1752

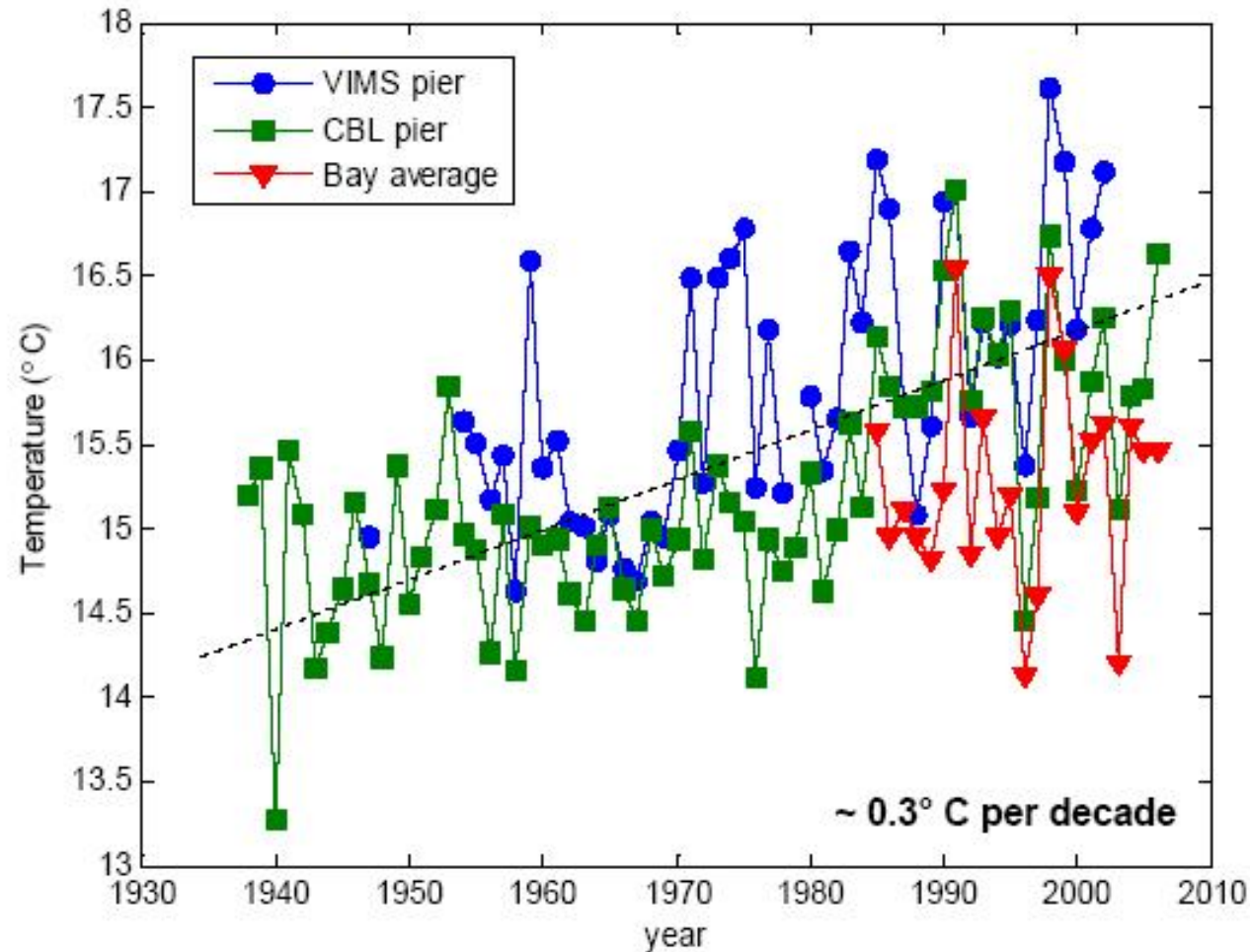


Source: Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center, U.S. Dept. of Energy

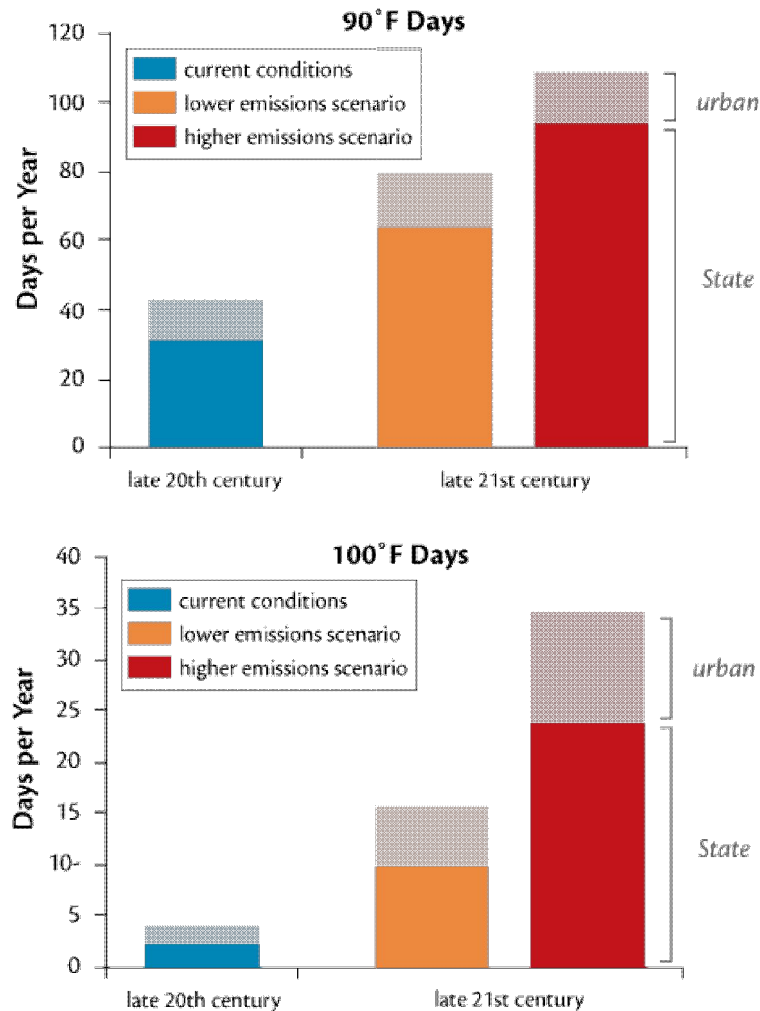
Increasing Global Surface Temperature



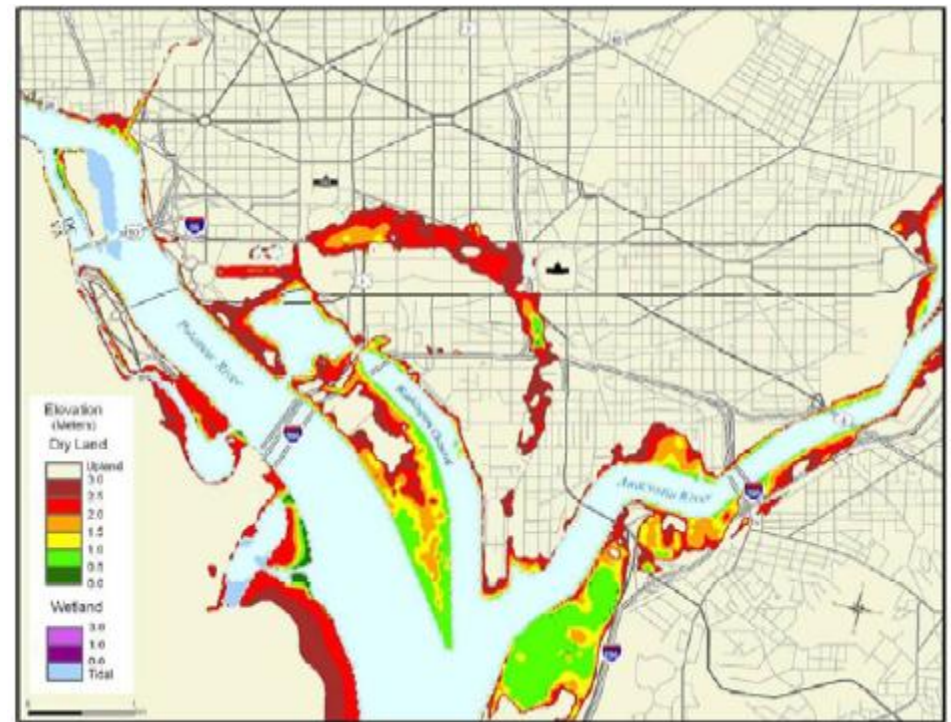
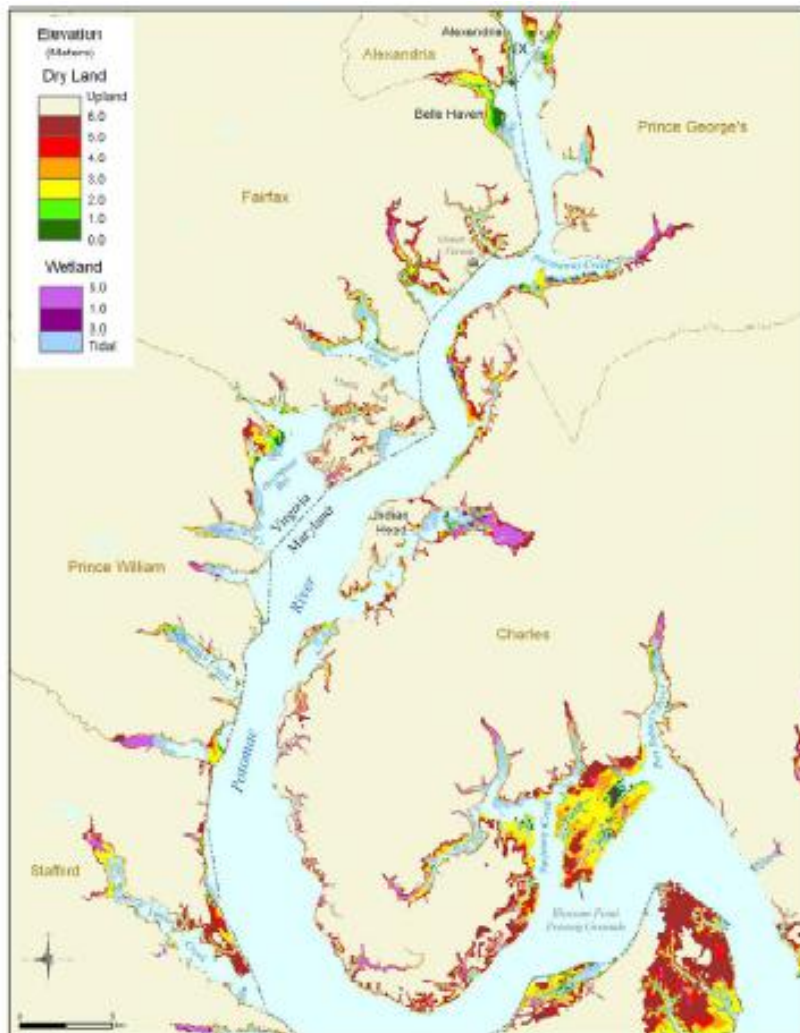
Measured Temperature Changes in Chesapeake Bay Surface Waters



Milder Winters, Much Hotter Summers

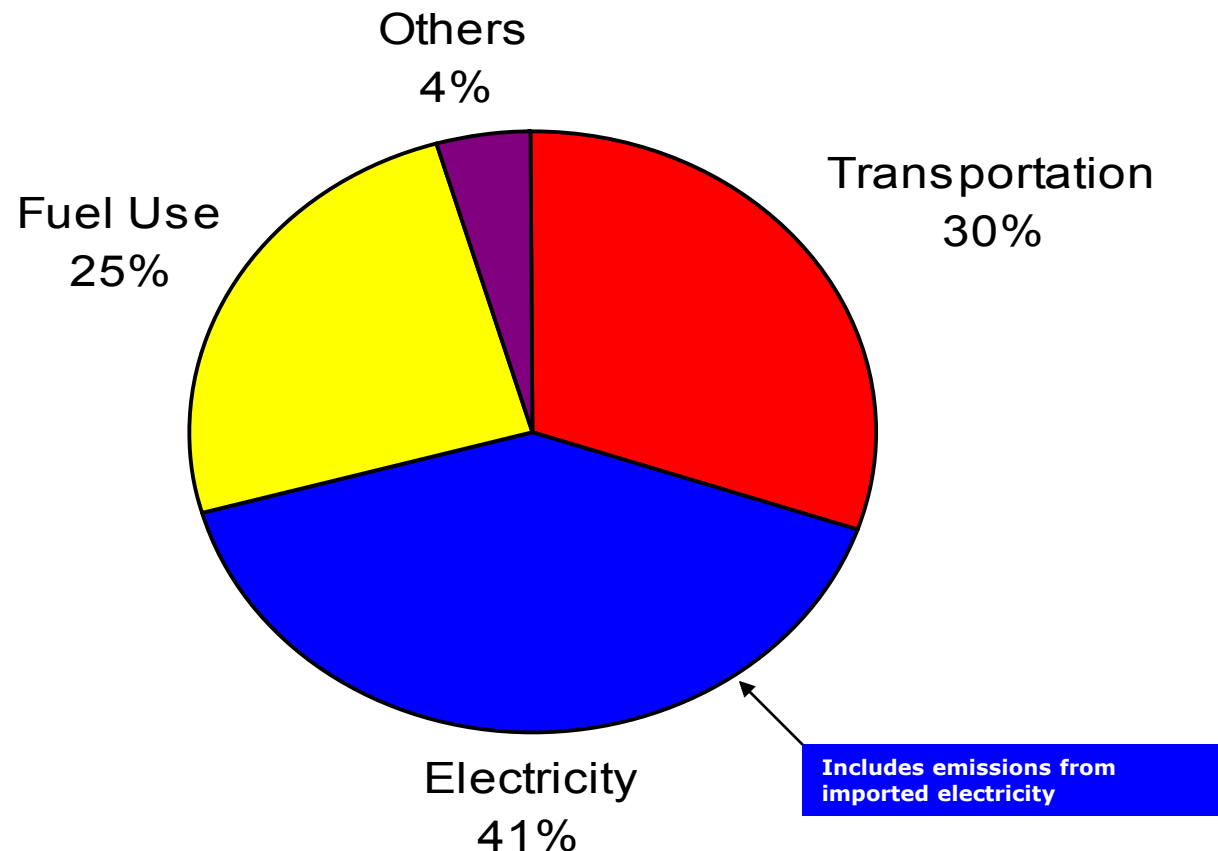


Sea-level Rise Vulnerability in DC Area

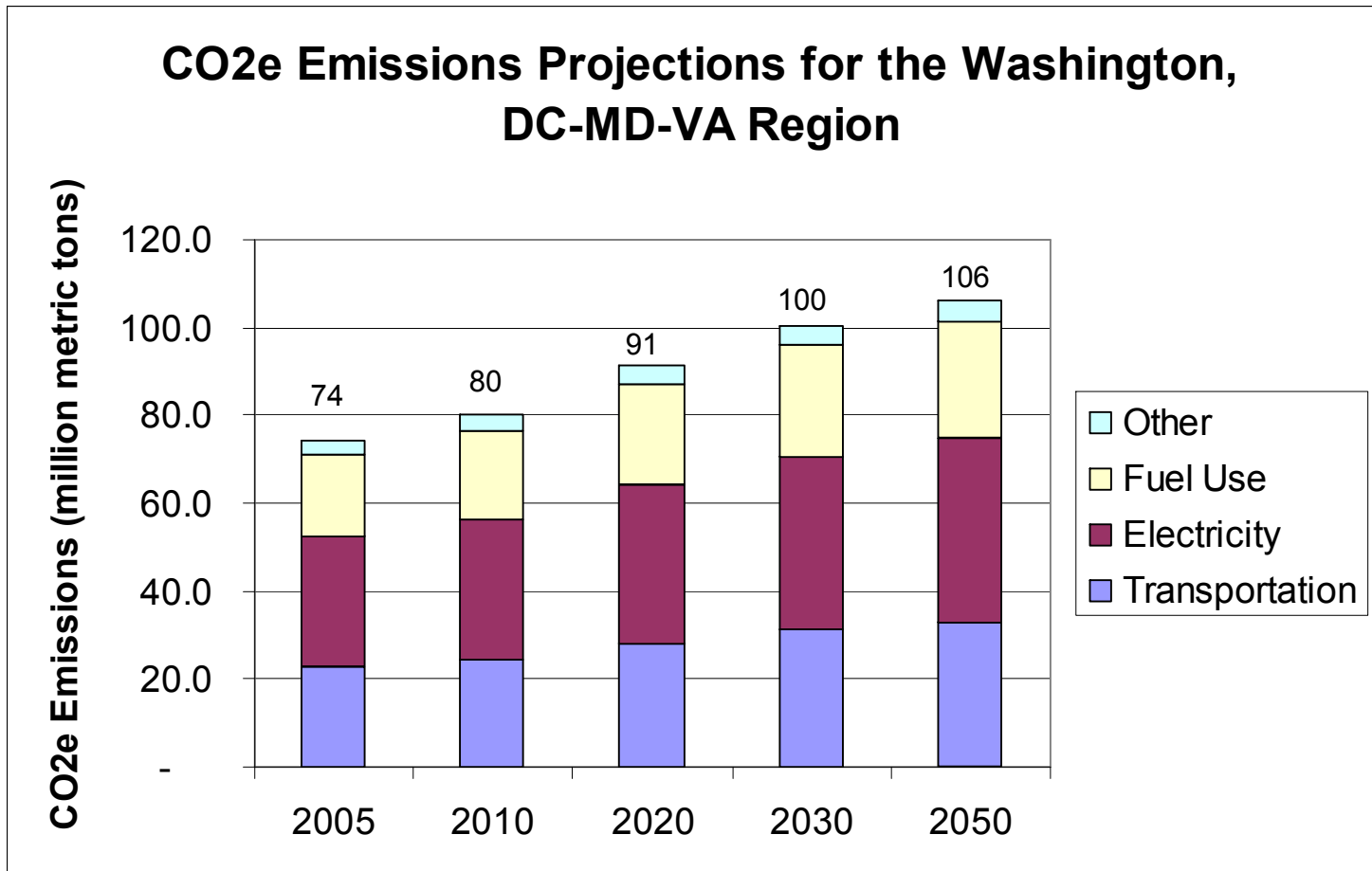


Source: Dr. Donald Boesch, University of Maryland

Major Sources of Washington Region's Greenhouse Gas Emissions



Projections of Regional Greenhouse Gas Emissions: 2005-2050



Source: Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments



Recommendations for Taking Action:

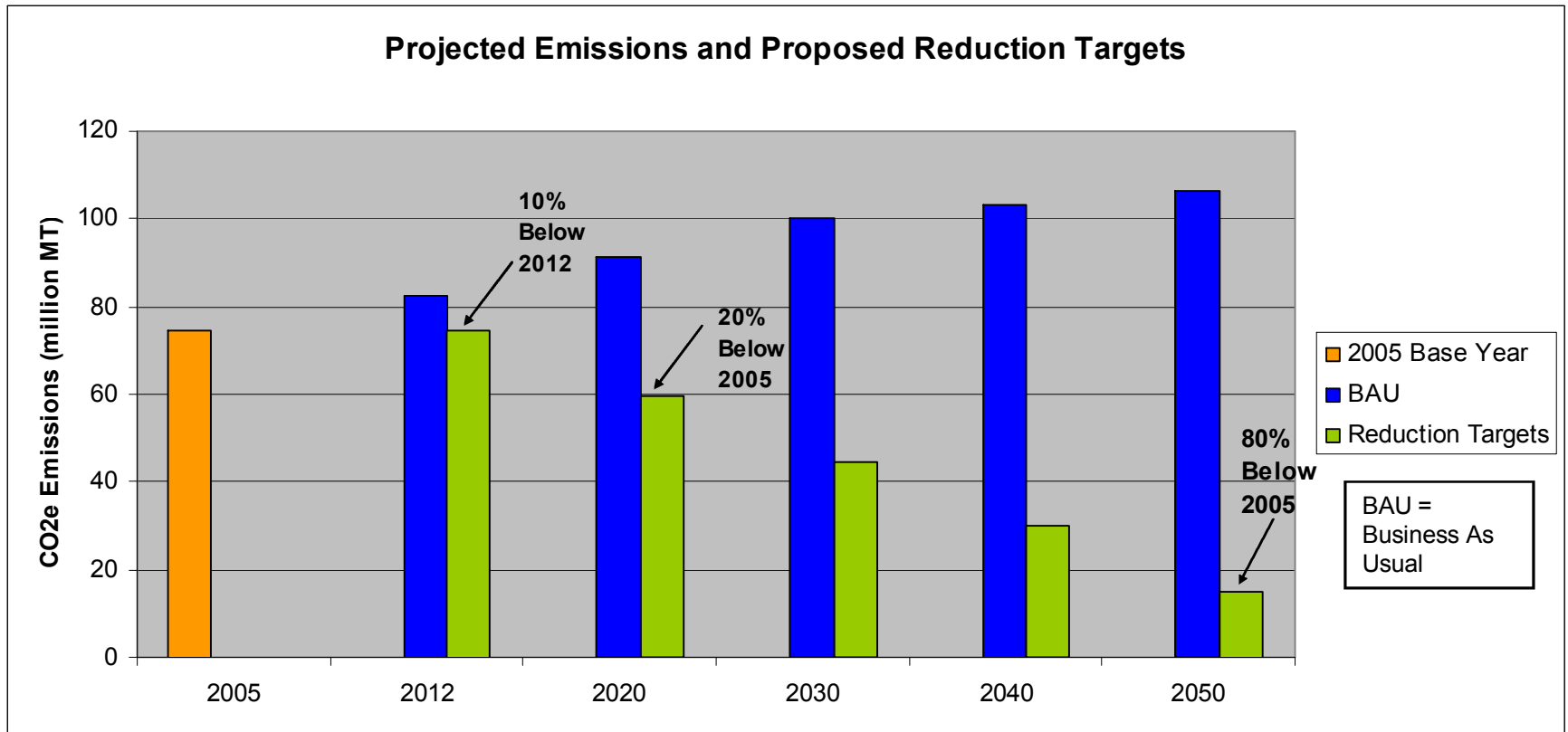
- ❖ Regional Reduction Goals
- ❖ Energy
- ❖ Transportation and Land Use
- ❖ Economic Development
- ❖ Adaptation
- ❖ Financing
- ❖ Outreach & Education
- ❖ COG Climate Change Program

Proposed Regional Reduction Goals

2012: 10% Below Business as Usual

2020: 20% Below 2005

2050: 80% Below 2005





Energy Recommendations

Improve Energy Efficiency

- **Regional Example:** Identify best practices for improving energy efficiency of existing buildings.
- **Local Government Leading By Example:**
Regional Green Building Policy – LEED Silver for all new local government buildings

Reduce Energy Demand

- **Regional Example:**
Explore regional energy audit and retrofit program
- **Local Government Leading By Example:**
 - Reduce Energy Use by 15% by 2012
 - Regional Street Light Replacement Program

Develop Clean Energy Alternatives

- **Regional Example:** Support 20% Renewable Portfolio Standard
- **Local Government Leading by Example:**
Adopt 20% Renewable Energy Purchase by 2015



Transportation Recommendations

Increase Fuel Efficiency

- **Regional Example:** Support California Low Emission Vehicle Standards
- **Local Government Leading by Example:** Promote transit supportive street designs

Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled

- **Regional Example:** Shift short trips (less than 3 miles) from car to other modes
- **Local Government Leading by Example:** Fully fund bicycle/pedestrian paths as outlined in regional plan

Use Alternative Fuels

- **Regional Example:** Promote adoption of regional Green Fleet goal
- **Local Government Leading by Example:** Accelerate adoption of efficient clean fuel vehicles



Land Use Recommendations

Smart Growth

- **Regional Example:** Promote walkable communities and affordable housing near transit
- **Local Government Leading by Example:** Research regional goals for directing development to activity centers

Tree Canopy Preservation

- **Regional Example:** Establish regional goal of no net loss of tree canopy
- **Local Government Leading by Example:** Consider density and height requirements for buildings to foster tree canopy goal

Comprehensive Planning

- **Regional Example:** Evaluate LEED-ND Standards for guiding new development
- **Local Government Leading by Example:** ID best practices for including GHG reduction as part of local comprehensive planning



Additional Recommendations

Financing and Economic Development

- Clean Energy Fund
- Offset Fund for Tree Planting and Canopy Management
- Funding for Building Retrofits
- Cooperative Purchasing
- Energy Performance Contracting

Outreach and Education

- Regional Outreach Partnerships: Clean Air Partners and Commuter Connections
- Climate Action Week
- Climate Leaders Awards

Adaptation

- Partner with university to develop 2050 regional climate impacts report/adaptation strategy

COG Climate Program

- Establish COG Board *Climate and Energy Policy Committee*
- Prepare plan to achieve 2012 goal by June, 2009.



Implementation Steps

- External Review by COG Members, Stakeholders and Public
- Development of Detailed Climate Action Work Program
 - ❖ Regional Plan for achieving 2012 goal
 - ❖ Analysis of Immediate Priority Recommendations
 - ❖ Reduction Tracking System
 - ❖ Advocacy Positions
 - ❖ Identification of Funding and/or Partnerships for selected initiatives including outreach and education
- Coordination with Greater Washington 2050



Schedule for Review and Final COG Board Action

- **Now through September 30:**
 - Comment Period for COG members, stakeholders and general public
- **November 2008:** COG Board acts on final report



For further information...

- To obtain an electronic copy of the report:
 - https://www.mwcog.org/environment/climate/Documents/Climate_Change_Report_Public_Review_Draft%207_9_08.pdf
- To comment on the report:
 - <http://www.mwcog.org/environment/climate/public/>
- Questions?
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 - sfreudberg@mwkog.org, 202/962-3340